



## LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

[www.llbmd.org](http://www.llbmd.org)

Commissioners Meeting

**THURSDAY, June 19, 2014– 7:00 P.M.**

### **Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall**

6812 Brown Street

Oconomowoc, WI 53066

*“The LLBMD seeks to promote environmentally conscious and fiscally responsible decisions by providing education, enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem and ensuring safe use of Lac La Belle for today and tomorrow.”*

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order

Chair Paul Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Paul Carpenter

Karen Carr (arrived 7:17 PM)

Dan Bauer

Mike Fitzsimmons

Dave Zimmermann

Absent

Lou Morgan

3. Comments from the Floor

There were no comments from the floor at this time.

4. Correspondence

Emails

Various emails from Kathy Buss, City of Oconomowoc, regarding lake levels:  
(5/20, 5/27, 6/2, 6/9, and 6/12)

May 21, 2014 – Lisa Conley re: LLBMD newsletter

May 22, 2014 – Mike Jones re: 2014 Goose Round-Up

May 23, 2014 – Wisconsin elake newsletter re: Two Lake Events Will Warm Up Your Summer!

June 9, 2014 – Peter Carpenter re: LLBMD website

June 9, 2014 – Mike Jones re: 2014 LLB Goose Round-Up

June 9, 2014 – Bonnie Lewis-Tschannen re: Light Up the Lake

June 13, 2014 – Peter Carpenter re: LLBMD website

June 13, 2014 – Mike Jones re: 2014 LLB Goose Round-Up date

June 19, 2014 – Mike Jones re: 2014 LLB Goose Round-Up date change

Paul Carpenter noted he had received the most recent copy of the Lake Tides newsletter in the mail on behalf of the District as well.

5. Approval of Minutes

**M. Fitzsimmons moved to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2014 LLBMD meeting as presented. D. Bauer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

6. Treasurer's Report

**D. Bauer moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports for June, 2014 as presented. D. Zimmermann seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

7. Payment Authorizations

**D. Bauer moved to approve the Payment Authorizations for June, 2014 as presented. D. Zimmermann seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

8. Discuss Feasibility of Channel Navigability Near City Boat Launch

Nancy and Rick Showers, 115 Woodland Lane, explained they had recently moved to this location and quickly noticed how shallow the end of the channel near the City boat launch had become. There was a great deal of muck and sedimentation near their pier and it was difficult to navigate in and out of the boat lift and channel near their property. Their shoreline had approximately a foot of water in times of high water and it seemed it had been decades since the area had been cleaned out. R. Showers stated there seemed to be a current flowing into the channel from the east and the people that lived at the end of the channel often had floating material and sedimentation near their shoreline. N. Showers proposed the option of dredging the channel. She had spoken to a dredging company representative regarding the costs of dredging noting it was expensive, but would not take place often. The dredging company representative explained sedimentation removed from the lake either needed to be trucked offsite or pumped out onto land. She thought there could be an option to pump it back onto the island and the sedimentation was being impacted from stormwater runoff in the area as well. The situation would only continue to worsen and it was not a task that a private landowner could tackle alone. She had also checked on the possibility of using trash pumps and learned these only could be utilized around the pier areas and could not be done without DNR approval. She was concerned about the use of the lake from her property and she was hopeful the Commission would champion the dredging and provide assistance in moving through a dredging process.

P. Carpenter thanked the Showers for bringing this item forward. The issue had been examined in the past and he thought it should be revisited. The island near City Beach had eroded over time and in 2007, the Commission had supported the City's efforts to attempt to provide stabilization and maintenance on and around the island near City Beach. The maintenance did not move forward as presented and the biologic materials did not establish as previously thought. He thought the LLBMD mission included maintaining and looking after the integrity of the water and recreational use of the lake. The sediment removed in dredging was often considered desirable by farmers for use as fertilizer on their fields.

N. Showers stated the dredging company representative had also noted a great deal of the lake sedimentation was comprised of silt, leaves and other bio-degradable organic matter. Individual

homeowners would not be able to deal with the sedimentation removal on their own. It was important to work with someone who knew what to do and how to properly dispose of the material. The dredging representative explained that when individual homeowners attempt to remove the material on their own it oftentimes worsened the situation because the material would get stirred up and then resettle. R. Showers stated the issue at hand needed to be addressed on a broader scale in order to be effective. The low spots would fill in a short time after dredging if everyone did not participate. N. Showers stated the life expectancy for a dredging effort would be approximately 20 years.

Discussion ensued regarding permitting responsibilities assumed by a dredging company and the DNR permitting process. The dredging company representative had indicated it would be beneficial to meet with the neighbors regarding getting equipment in the area.

Tim Clark, Village of Lac La Belle President, stated he understood the issue at hand as he had set parameters to trim up his boat motor in order to get it off his lift. He also questioned whether the Commission would undertake all dredging issues around the lake as a result of providing dredging support in this case. The Commission could be establishing precedence in this issue that would cause long term concern as it was difficult to support one area and not another. There were shallow areas all around the lake, especially near the north and south bay areas, where boaters were required to trim up their motors and take extra steps to navigate. The lake was full of shallow shorelines. This issue seemed a matter of "buyer beware" and that property owners might have to live with the problems inherited upon purchase.

G. Stump stated this issue had been examined in the past. The DNR permitting process would require examination of the soils contained in the sediment prior to having it removed at an expense. The heavy metals would not be allowed to be removed. The lake had been surrounded by farms having agricultural fields for several decades and this could result a substantial amount of metals in the sediment.

P. Carpenter explained that past exploration of this issue in the channel area had found that the channel was considered by the DNR to be navigable and that if dredging were considered it would only be permitted by dock areas. He was uncertain that anything had changed since the last discussion of dredging the area; however, the silt could have changed and there might be economies of scale to having it removed. It could be prudent to meet with the neighbors and the dredging company representative to discuss economical impacts.

G. Stump stated a watershed association was being formed to deal with surface run-off and sewage issues. The City should be contacted regarding any grants to assist in managing surface drainage. P. Carpenter thanked all present for information shared.

9. Update on Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project - Golf Course Stream

G. Stumpf explained he visited the site of the Cooperative Streambank Restoration project during the recent rainstorms in the area, noting the silted water was entering the pond area as designed. The outflow from the pond was noticeably cleaner. Logs had broken loose twice and required repair as it would take a bit of time for them to establish themselves in the soil. He also noted the water captured from the farm fields near the project area was silt laden but by the time it was entering the lake was only tea stained in color. In the past, this type of downpour would have elicited a plume of silt entering the lake that would be clearly visible. With regard to areas of the creek upstream from the project location, G. Stumpf explained areas continued to be monitored to ensure buffers were

being met with regard to agricultural tilling in the area. Overall, he thought the project was a success already despite waiting for vegetation to emerge in various locations.

G. Stumpf stated he was also present regarding a pay request for the project work completed. He submitted an invoice to the Commission noting payments and reconciliation of other project stakeholders' contributions. At this time, he was requesting the Commission provide \$50,000.00 toward the project as discussed in prior meetings. A final payment of \$20,000.00 would be requested from the Commission in the future once the project was totally complete and all contingencies accounted for prior to the request.

**K. Carr moved to disperse \$50,000.00, payable to the Village of Lac La Belle, for the LLBMD's portion of the Cooperative Streambank Restoration project as discussed in past meetings of the LLBMD. D. Bauer seconded the motion. K. Carr clarified the remaining payment amount due for the project was approximately \$20,000.00. G. Stumpf agreed. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

D. Zimmermann stated he had several updates regarding the project. First, the property owner with agricultural land adjacent to the creek had submitted a restoration plan that had been rejected with a new plan submitted early this spring and implementation expected by the end of this month. County Staff would visit the restoration area and provide an update in upcoming weeks.

G. Stumpf suggested the Commission tour the project area and he would be happy to assist in arranging a tour if interested.

D. Zimmermann noted there was a culvert to the west of the area where the new drain was placed to assist drainage under the bypass to the new pond area. There were issues regarding adherence to setbacks in that area and this was impacting the drain. Efforts were continuing regarding clearing the drain area.

D. Zimmermann distributed a map that depicted the project area and County Staff findings related to invasive brush control along the tributaries to Lac La Belle on land owned by the County upstream from the project area. A detailed plan was being created regarding stabilization and erosion mitigation for later in the summer and early fall based on findings from County Staff.

10. Update on Navigational Buoys on Lac La Belle

This item would be placed on the next Commission agenda.

11. Update on Printing & Distribution of LLB Buoy Maps

This item was moved to the next Commission agenda when L. Morgan could be present. Discussion ensued regarding the number of buoys currently on the lake.

12. Update on 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program

K. Carr explained three submissions for the 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program had been received. She would contact Lisa Reas and begin work on the Shoreland Restoration program process. More information would be provided at the next Commission meeting.

13. Discuss 2014 Goose Round-Up

P. Carpenter explained plans for the 2014 Goose Round-Up were underway. The Round-Up was originally scheduled for June 30, 2014; however, changes in the USDA Staff schedule had moved the date to June 24, 2014. USDA Staff required the assistance of people or Commissioners from the District to make the Goose Round-Up a success. P. Carpenter stated he would be willing to assist in the Round-Up for this year.

14. Discuss and Act on Annual Meeting Speaker Topics

Commissioners discussed various topics and speakers for the LLBMD Annual Meeting slated for August 21, 2014.

15. Discuss 2014 Annual Meeting Lake District Accomplishments

Commissioners discussed various accomplishments completed by the LLBMD Commission in the past year. These accomplishments included the Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project, continued partnership efforts with Waukesha County Staff regarding monitoring the upland stream area, continued Shoreland Restoration Program efforts, reduction of carp via the use of a commercial fisherman, creation of a buoy map with consideration of buoy replacement, distribution of the buoy map, participation in the annual Goose Round-Up, distribution of the 2014 Spring newsletter, heard presentations by Ben Heussner regarding proposed fish limit changes on Lac La Belle and by City Park and Recreation Director John Kelliher regarding the new community center and changes being considered at the boat launch.

16. Updates on the LLBMD website

a. Topics for the website

S. Keefe stated new photos of the commercial fisherman's activities were placed on the LLBMD website. Topics to be added to the website included links to an article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel paper regarding recent walleye fishing activities on Lac La Belle, as well as information on new piers and mooring spots at the Community Center and upcoming fireworks events on the lake including information on the Venetian Night-Light Up the Lake event in August.

17. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, July 17 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall. Beverly Saunders will be in attendance as speaker.

18. Agenda Topics for Next Meeting

The following topics were suggested for inclusion on the next meeting agenda:

- Update on 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program
- Update on 2014 Goose Round Up
- Update on Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project - Golf Course Stream
- Update on Navigational Buoys on Lac La Belle & Distribution of Buoy Maps

- Review of 2014 Annual Meeting Draft Agenda including 2015 Preliminary Budget
- Presentation by Beverly Saunders, Senior Specialist of the Southeastern Regional Plan Commission (SEWRPC)
- Discussion and Action on Updating the LLBMD Website

19. Adjournment

**D. Bauer moved to adjourn from the meeting. K. Carr seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.**

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.